

# Food System Modeling Toolkit

[High-level summary](#)

[Technical report](#)

The Food System Modeling approach proceeds in three steps. The first and second step can be done by a single organization or researcher, the third step requires roundtables together with multiple stakeholders and is not covered in the toolkit – further details can be found in the [technical report](#).

The exact procedure is described in the technical report, the below toolkit links to the most important data sources.

## Food system description

The first step describes the food system by means of a map with social, economic, and ecological variables. Arrows describe the interactions between the variables. For instance, an increase in food crop prices improves farmer profitability but reduces consumer demand.

## Identification of hotspots

The second step is the identification of hotspots. Several external databases contain food system performance indicators. These databases are used to better understand the functioning of a food system and allow for the identification of hotspots or failures in the food system. For instance, widespread obesity is a hotspot or failure in the Mexican food system.

## Identification of relevant leverage points or interventions

In the third step, an interactive workshop brings together relevant stakeholders to analyze the hotspots, map the system and identify relevant leverage points or interventions that could enable the food system to move to a more desirable state.



[FAO Food Balance Sheets \(FBS\)](#)

[Food Sustainability Index \(by EIU\)](#)

[Global Food Security Index \(by EIU\)](#)

Organized in local multi-stakeholder roundtables on site